

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>Inventor(s):</b>	Steven A. Olsen	<b>Examiner:</b>	A, Phi Dieu Tran
<b>Appln. No.:</b>	09/960,537	<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	3637
<b>Filing Date:</b>	September 21, 2001	<b>Confirmation No.:</b>	5282
<b>Title:</b>	RETRACTABLE COLUMN AND METHOD OF FORMING	<b>Customer No.:</b>	25764
		<b>Docket No.</b>	78753-332261

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT NOVEMBER 15, 2006, THIS PAPER IS BEING  
TRANSMITTED ELECTRONICALLY TO THE U.S. PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE.

  
Lisa Johnson

**REPLY**

This Reply is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed November 7, 2006. No fee is thought to be necessary. However, if any fee is required for entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account 06-0029 and is requested to notify us of the same. This Reply includes the following:

**Amendments to the Specification** beginning on page 2 of this paper

**Claim Amendments** beginning on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings begin** on page 11 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing the changes.

**Remarks** beginning on page 12 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 14 of this paper.